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## Flood outlook in place until Oct. 8

The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry issued a flood outlook last week for the Burnt River and Gull River watersheds, which include the Drag and Irondale rivers. An outlook means that flooding is possible, not imminent.

"Parks Canada is reporting above average water flows throughout the Burnt River and Gull River watersheds for this time of year," reads the Oct. 1 bulletin.

"Current water levels and flows are the result of recent heavy rains during the month of September. Total rainfall amounts have exceeded 120 mm. Flows on the Burnt and Gull Rivers are significantly above normal, and levels are expected to continue to increase in the reservoir lakes and rivers. Current long-range weather estimates forecast an additional 30 to 40 mm of rainfall over the next five days."

The flood outlook will remain in effect until Friday, Oct. 8 and residents are asked to be vigilant.

- Staff



### Huskies held off at home

Haliburton County Huskies forward Jack Staniland is held up by Lindsay Muskies forward Nate Burelle during Ontario Junior Hockey League action last Saturday afternoon at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena in Minden. The Huskies lost 4-0 in their home opener and drop to 1-1 on the season. See page 4 for more. /DARREN LUM Staff

## First year of septic inspections results in program delays, frustration

by **SUE TIFFIN**  
Editor

The 2021 Minden Hills septic re-inspection program that began in June has ended, with a reported 742 properties of 1,063 – or about 70 per cent - being inspected by Sept. 16 this year.

Representatives of WSP Canada Inc., the contractor hired by the township to conduct the inspections, made a delegation to council at a special meeting held virtually on Oct. 4 noting their company's staff departures, an unexpected phone system change, a larger volume of calls and emails and homeowner changes as the reasons for program delays and the frustration some residents had with

the program.

Though inspections continued up until Sept. 27, as of Sept. 16 there were 321 properties that were missed this year and will be postponed to next year.

Staff departures from WSP Canada were cited in Katelyn Sysiuk and Camille Taylor's report as being the cause for "delays in the reporting progress," with reports from June

and July currently being reviewed. To date, 151 reports have been sent to properties that had their inspection completed.

The report also notes that the first year of the program typically results in many questions from homeowners, and that "WSP experienced a larger than anticipated volume of calls and emails, which led to increased

see COMPANY page 2



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**Recognition and remembrance**

An Every Child Matters flag flies at half-mast on Sept. 30 at the Minden Hills municipal building. From left, Minden Hills Mayor Brent Devolin, Councillor Pam Sayne and CAO/Clerk Trisha McKibbin. /DARREN LUM Staff



Members of Algonquin Highlands council and staff held a flag-raising ceremony outside the township office on North Shore Road on the morning of Thursday, Sept. 30, marking the first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, which honours the victims of Canadian residential schools, their families and communities. /Submitted by the Township of Algonquin Highlands

## Company plans to improve program for 2022

from page 1

response times."

Additional delays were experienced when WSP IT infrastructure was "unexpectedly transitioned from Skype-based phone applications to MS Teams in July and Aug. 2021. Although our IT department had assured us that there would be no impacts on our service, we did experience an issue with our voicemail system for the program which was not properly activated and therefore callers could not leave a message."

Staff departures at the company included the program coordinator who left in June, causing internal reassignments of existing staff "to minimize impacts to the program." In August with further staff departures, staff working in the background were asked to take on more responsibility.

"This started in Ward 2, so I probably got most of the phone calls if there was a hiccup in the road," said Councillor Pam Sayne. "One of the things I want to assure, is that there was a lot of difficulty regarding, you know, getting enough people on board right away to coordinate the timing of the inspections. People weren't getting responses back, and yet the letter that we sent out talked about fines and all sorts of issues. A lot of people were very nervous, they were trying to do the right thing, but they just found it pretty overwhelming. And so I want to just confirm that no one has gotten any fines at this point, particularly because of our difficulty in communications."

"We may have a few exceptions, which we haven't finished tabulating, but everybody that communicated with us and left a voice mail or email to rebook or to cancel, there [were] no fines applied to date," responded Taylor.

Councillor Bob Carter questioned if there were common reasons why the missed properties – about 30 per cent – weren't completed.

Sysiuk said about 55 property owners failed to show up for the inspection, but the bulk of those missed were for homeowner changes, resulting in the company getting updated mailing information to book those properties next year.

"Obviously the fear is that if there is somebody whose system is woefully inadequate, they may be trying to duck the program so I just wanted to make sure that we don't have that

type of a situation going on," said Carter. He then asked what response the program was getting from property owners.

"We've been having positive responses from our inspectors that have been on site," said Sysiuk. "I think homeowners have been able to kind of learn a bit more about their system on their site, and how to take care of it and how to [make it] last as long as it can. So all of our field staff have had positive feedback from homeowners ... And then, as far as reaching back to homeowners who had phoned us ... we're setting up for next year to be able to respond to those a bit sooner so hopefully there's less fear with the program and anxiety about booking those inspections or changing the date of it if it doesn't work for them."

The WSP report says the company "will work with the township of Minden Hills to apply any lessons learned as part of the program in 2021 to improve the program for 2022." Letters will be reworded to be more clear, and more staff will be hired.

The township was the last of the county's four lower-tier municipalities to launch a mandatory inspection program required by the provincial government.

As previously reported, properties are scheduled to be inspected during a phased, five-year period. The first zone, where septic system inspections began this year, includes Gull and Moore lakes and surrounding areas south of Minden.

The upfront costs for the township – including fees paid to the firm for scheduling, mapping, risk assessment, public education, etc. as well as labour, legal and supplies costs – have totalled \$82,500.

Conducted on a cost-recovery basis, the lid-off inspections will cost property owners \$240; a \$225.55 fee per site, as well as a \$15 administration fee designed to cover the township's in-house costs for administering the program. Should property owners opt to use a firm other than WSP, they'll pay the same \$240 fee, as well as \$150 for a third-party review fee.

A further detailed report and delegation to council by WSP Canada is expected later this year. The company was also used by the Township of Algonquin Highlands and the Municipality of Dysart et al for their programs.

*with files from the Minden Times*



# Staff shortages causing delay for landfill plans, road repairs

by **SUE TIFFIN**  
Editor

Operating space at the Scotch Line landfill is becoming increasingly tight, but the township continues to wait for approval from the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks for the construction of a new transfer station at the site, a delay that was attributed to staffing issues at the ministry in a conversation held during the Oct. 4 Minden Hills council meeting.

"As you're probably aware, Scotch Line landfill is quickly running out of capacity in our Phase 1 operation area," Tara Stephen, manager of waste facilities, told councillors at the virtual meeting. "We've worked with the ministry to identify a small area in Phase 2 where they've granted us permission to begin landfilling to allow us to continue to operate while we wait for approval for the new transfer station located beside the facility, so that gives us a bit of breathing room and a nice area to work through the winter months when operations become very challenging."

The new transfer station enables residents to deposit waste and recycling in bins set up near the gates of the facility, rather than driving through the landfill as they currently do.

Councillor Bob Carter questioned the timeline for the transfer station.

"Was that work not supposed to be completed this year?" he asked Stephen. "Was that not the plan?"

"Our operating plan was to have that constructed this year," said Stephen. "We have to have approvals from the ministry to construct that. During our initial conversations with the ministry on this project – this started before COVID – in all of our conversations with them, they didn't see any issues with keeping things moving. Things kind of ground to a halt, with COVID. Our process has not slowed whatsoever, we met all of our milestones for this project, completed our design and operations report, submitted our approvals on time – unfortunately, this is a staffing issue, and there are just no people to keep applications moving through the ministry. We aren't the only organization in this boat. There are a number of stalled applications with them in both private and public sectors, so,

at this point we're looking to carry forward that project, but we've done everything we can on our end to get this complete based on our original timelines."

Carter responded, "So, at this point, we have no indication as to when we might get an approval."

"Unfortunately, no," said Stephen. "We have had communications with them on our application, so we know they have reviewed our application for our completion, which is a step in the process, so I know that it is on somebody's desk and it has been assigned. From there, it's really just getting through the technical review and keeping it moving with them."

Carter noted that there were plans to rebuild Scotch Line Road next year, but that the projects needed in some ways to be sequential.

"So, this delay could cause another delay which is really unfortunate," he said.

Councillor Jean Neville said she had her "usual question" about the wait for approval of an agreement between Minden Hills and the Municipality of Highlands East that will allow Minden Hills residents who were affected by the closure of the Irondale landfill to use the Glamorgan transfer station, owned and operated by Highlands East. That approval comes from a different branch of the ministry, said Stephen, which deals with approvals rather than compliance issues.

"There has been some communication now with the ministry about that approval for Glamorgan transfer station so we do hope to see a final approval from them in the near future," she said.

Mayor Brent Devolin said that a ministerial delegation could be made at the Rural Ontario Municipal Association conference should the problem of waiting for approval persist.

"It's not acceptable on a whole bunch of levels," he said.

Meanwhile, road repairs planned for the Ingoldsby transfer station are also so far on hold due to staff shortages closer to home.

"We've had some meetings on site at the Ingoldsby transfer station to look at trying to get those road repairs completed before winter, unfortunately the intent of this work was to do it in-house with our own staff," said Stephen. "We just don't

have enough staff to do it in-house and many local contractors are indicating that they also don't have staff or resources to do that work. We've got a few more people we're going to try to connect with and get that rolling, but some challenges with that project for sure, just due to material and staffing shortages. "

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### THANKSGIVING OFFICE CLOSURE

Minden Hills Council & Staff wish everyone a Safe and Happy Thanksgiving. Please enjoy the holiday responsibly and within the Provincial guidelines. Administration Offices and services will be CLOSED on October 11th.

### (VIRTUAL) COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted virtually via web conference meetings, until further notice. Meetings begin at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted. The schedule of upcoming meetings are:

**October 14** – Regular Council Meeting  
**October 28** – Regular Council Meeting

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by joining a live-stream link available on the township website at [www.minden hills.ca/council/](http://www.minden hills.ca/council/) or by using the direct link provided in the notice. Meeting agendas are not displayed during the meeting, please download by visiting our website at [www.minden hills.ca/council/](http://www.minden hills.ca/council/). Please note the live-stream link provided for each meeting will only be activated while Council is in session.

### A MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

#### Thanksgiving Safety Tips

Stay in the kitchen when you are cooking on the stovetop so you can keep an eye on the food.

- Stay in the home when cooking your turkey and check on it frequently.
- Keep children away from the stove, hot food, liquids and knives.
- Keep the floor clear so you don't trip over kids, toys, pocketbooks or bags.
- Be sure electric cords are not dangling off the counter within easy reach of a child.



### HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION EVENT

The final Household Hazardous Waste collection in 2020 will be held this **Saturday, October 9, 2021** at the Scotch Line Landfill from 8am to 11:30am. Please visit [mindenhills.ca/landfill](http://mindenhills.ca/landfill) for a list of accepted items.

### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

We are currently looking to fill a variety of positions within the Township. Many opportunities include benefits such as enrollment in a comprehensive benefit package, Employee Assistance Plan, life insurance, personal health coverage, OMERS pension plan, vacation, float and sick time entitlements as well as opportunities for training and development.

We are currently looking for:

#### Public Works

- Equipment Operator (Temporary Full Time)
- Labourer (Temporary Full Time)

#### Community Services

- Student Recreation Attendant
- Student Arena Attendant
- Casual Operator

Please visit our website at [www.minden hills.ca/employment-opportunities/](http://www.minden hills.ca/employment-opportunities/) for a list of available jobs and how to apply.

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills will be holding a Public Meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, October 28, 2021 during its Meeting of Council via web conference regarding its Fees and Charges By-law. More information will be provided at a later date.

### FIRE HYDRANT FLUSHING

Please note that mandatory Fire Hydrant flushing will be performed throughout the Minden Water Distribution System during the weeks of **October 11-15 and October 18-22**.

During this period please allow your water to run for 2-5 minutes to clear any discoloration through the home plumbing. For more info, please call Melanie Oates, Clerical Assistant (705) 286-1260 ext. 500.

### CALL FOR INTERESTED PARTIES

The Township of Minden Hills is looking for individuals and/or companies for the clean-up of properties as per Property Standards By-law 11-61 for more information please visit our website at <https://mindenhills.ca/newsroom/> or email [admin@mindenhills.ca](mailto:admin@mindenhills.ca).

### NOTICE – 2022 BUDGET DELIBERATIONS

The Council of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills will commence its 2022 Budget deliberations during its Regular Council Meeting via web conference scheduled for October 14, 2021.

Trisha McKibbin, CAO/Clerk  
705-286-1260 ext. 505  
[tmckibbin@mindenhills.ca](mailto:tmckibbin@mindenhills.ca)

### WASTE REDUCTION TIP OF THE WEEK

When grocery shopping, place produce such as green peppers and bananas loose into your cart rather than using disposable plastic produce bags. If you prefer to bag your produce, try reusable produce bags – now available to purchase at most grocery stores!





Haliburton County Huskies forward Brad Ditillio moves the puck with teammate Ethan Gonsalves looking to help. /DARREN LUM Staff



Preceding the historic first Ontario Junior Hockey League (OJHL) home game for the Haliburton County Huskies, the ceremonial puck drop included Lindsay Muskies captain William Jones, from left, Chris Vanstone, director of hockey operations for the OJHL, Minden Hills Mayor Brent Devolin, Huskies president of business and hockey operations/league governor Brad Townsend, Huskies owner Paul Wilson and team captain Nathan Porter. /OJHL Images Ray MacAloney

# Huskies return bolstered by community support

by **KATRINA BOGUSKI**  
Times Staff

The hometown crowd came out in force to cheer on the Haliburton County Huskies during their home opener at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena on Saturday night. Season ticket holders, billets, parents, and volunteers filled the stands to COVID capacity.

The fans arrived early, lining up before 3:45 p.m. for the 4:30 p.m. game time. Proof of vaccination was required for entry and fans seemed happy to comply with all regulations including masks.

The Huskies played host to the Lindsay Muskies who shut out the home team 4 - 0. The night before, when the Huskies were in Lindsay, the Huskies beat the Muskies 3 - 2.

Despite the disappointing home ice score, fans were supportive of the team and some noted that it is still early in the

season. Fans are keen to see their team up their performance going forward.

The Huskies will play 54 regular season games, which will include 26 more home games plus playoffs. Most of their home games will be played on Friday nights and Saturday afternoons at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena in Minden.

The team's owner, Paul Wilson, was on hand to watch his team and was encouraged by the amount of support the franchise already has received from the advance sales of season tickets and backing from sponsors.

Sponsors had their names boldly displayed on the Huskies' jerseys and others also had their company names appear elsewhere. Those sponsors with their names on the newly minted jerseys were visible throughout the game, and especially so when the team lined up on home ice before the game.

Haliburton's Ella Gooley sang out a beautiful rendition of O Canada; fans were impressed to hear such a powerful voice coming from such a young singer. After the crescendo in the

final verse, she yelled, "Go Huskies" and the confident young singer set the tone as the players from both teams stood facing the flag.

The Huskies' line up included local lads Joe Boice and Ryan Hall. The ceremonial puck drop included Minden Hills Township Mayor Brent Devolin, who dropped the puck between the two team's captains with Ontario Junior Hockey League director of operations Chris Vanstone, Huskies owner Paul Wilson, president of business and hockey operations/league governor Brad Townsend looking on.

Also on hand throughout the game were head coach and GM Ryan Ramsay, and assistant GM and director of player relations Brian Mackenzie. Mackenzie said that it was great to see the fans turnout in force and commended the Lindsay team for their hard work during the game. He hopes to see better game result when the Huskies return to home ice. He also noted that Saturday's game was the second game the Huskies played within 18 hours.

Also working hard throughout the evening to ensure a smooth opening night was Jess Jackson, billet coordinator and games day operations manager. Jackson could be seen coordinating volunteers, staff and special guests throughout the game.

The staff was keen to give special thanks to billet families who are hosting the Huskies players in their homes for the season. Providing a welcoming home environment where players can recoup between the games is an important part of the equation that must be balanced to ensure the successful operation of the OJHL team.

Volunteers are also key and many enthusiastic ones were at the arena filling various roles.

There was a solid selection of Huskies apparel available at the game, and judging from the significant number of people wearing it, the Huskies team logo will be a popular fashion statement this fall among local hockey fans.

A statement posted on the Huskies website from Jim Mason, OJHL communications said two area Foodland stores have been offering Huskies merchandise for sale, selling 400 hats and 300 T-shirts alone. The apparel sold at the opening home game presumably boosted those numbers significantly higher.

A limited number of sponsorship opportunities are still available, and you can still sign up to be a volunteer. For more information on becoming a volunteer or a billet, contact Jess Jackson at huskieshousing@hotmail.com.

Head Coach Ryan Ramsay told the *Times* "On Oct. 26 we play our home game in Cobourg as this is our showcase tournament not in Minden." A full schedule of the Huskies home and away games, as well as team stats and more detailed information on sponsorship opportunities can be found at: [www.huskieshockey.ca](http://www.huskieshockey.ca).

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# Health unit reaches milestone with 80 per cent vaccinated

by SUE TIFFIN  
Editor

The following are brief reports from a Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge district health unit press conference with medical officer of health Dr. Natalie Bocking, held virtually Sept. 29.

As of Monday [Sept. 27] of last week, the HKPRD health unit reported 80 per cent of the population across the health unit's region had received two doses of COVID-19 vaccine. To date, almost 85 per cent of the population in the region had received one dose of vaccine.

"This milestone – I think we often focus on the population that's left to still be vaccinated, and really can take a step back and acknowledge the amount of work and the huge achievement of reaching that 80 per cent mark," said Bocking, who thanked the dedication of healthcare workers but also community organizations, municipalities, volunteers, "and of course all of the residents who have participated in this really unprecedented roll-out of vaccine."

Approximately 25,500 residents living in the health unit's region that are eligible for vaccines have still not received their first dose.

Bocking said the health unit's website had the most up-to-date and accurate information on vaccine clinics, including mobile clinics, school-based clinics, and pharmacy options.

## Local COVID-19 stats update

As of Sept. 29, the health unit's area had

identified 2,439 COVID-19 cases since the beginning of the pandemic in March 2020. On that day last week, there were 27 active cases, with 243 high-risk contacts – Bocking noted the number was twice as high as was reported the previous week, and said the health unit is "continuing to note the high number of contacts identified with each case that's being identified." The number is higher in relation to school-aged cases, in which entire classrooms are identified as high-risk contacts if school staff or students become infected.

Of the 51 cases identified in the last 14 days, 29.4 per cent were individuals under the age of 20, while 19.6 per cent were individuals between the ages of 50 and 59. Of the 51 cases, 37.3 per cent had become infected with no known source, 25 per cent were household contacts and 27.5 per cent were close contacts with someone with a confirmed case of COVID-19.

Bocking said that of the 279 cases of COVID-19 identified since July 1, 14 per cent were fully vaccinated and 66 per cent had not been vaccinated, or had no record of vaccination, while 19.7 per cent were either partially vaccinated with one dose or were not fully protected yet, with 14 days passing since their second dose.

"So still seeing the vast majority of cases being among individuals that are unvaccinated," she said.

## Vaccine approval for children under 12 possible this year

While Pfizer seeks approval through the FDA and Health Canada for use of the vaccine

in children aged 5 to 11 based on preliminary data of trials, Bocking said the health unit is preparing for the potential approval, implementation and rollout of the vaccine, possibly by the end of the calendar year. "What does this mean for Canada, and what does this mean for HKPR, it means we're one step closer," she said. "A few steps in between, but we're now well experienced in terms of what that process looks like and can quickly adapt to what is needed."

Last year, the HKPR health unit region identified more than 200 cases of COVID-19 among school-aged children and educators. This school year after one month of school, Bocking said "we've only had 11 cases, which is great."

"The impact of COVID infection in terms of resulting classes being dismissed or bus cohorts being dismissed, certainly is still a significant disruption in school," she said.

Provincially, approximately 17 per cent of COVID-19 cases have been in individuals under the age of 20, and about 16.5 per cent across the health unit's jurisdiction throughout the pandemic.

"We have had, I believe it's just over 406 cases among individuals under the age of 20," Bocking said.

"What's different about this age group is that they don't tend to have as severe disease, so they're not as sick, we don't see the as-high hospital admissions or ICU admissions," she said. "That being said it still does happen, we have had six deaths among the paediatric population across Ontario since the start of the pandemic."

Responding to a question from a reporter about why children were being encouraged

to be vaccinated, Bocking acknowledged that "it's a bit nuanced."

"When we think about the Delta variant and how infectious it is, just mathematically, if you have a larger number of children that are infected overall you're going to see those rarer hospitalizations, ICU admissions more, just by virtue of there being a larger number of kids that are infected," she said. "So part of this is in response to newer variants, such as the Delta variant, which are more infectious. The other component is that while children might not get as sick, they certainly can pass on infection to others, and so this becomes more than about protecting a population as a whole, communities as a whole and families as a whole to decrease overall spread of the virus which will then prevent hospitalizations, ICU admissions and death in older age groups across the population as well. There's two pieces to that puzzle, and certainly similar to other viruses, where we look at vaccine coverage, really needing to see the entire population with protection through vaccination to see overall control of the spread of the virus."

At this point in time, Bocking said the province has indicated that they will not be adding the COVID-19 vaccine to the list of vaccine requirements, which includes measles, tetanus, diphtheria and polio that currently exists for school-aged children to protect against outbreaks in schools.

"And so direction might be more around having some sort of policy direction around disclosure of vaccine status so we at least know what the vaccination status is of students which will help us with case and contact management and outbreak management," said Bocking.

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**IN OTHER WORDS**

Columns and Letters to the Editor

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## Hello, readers

**I**T'S MAYBE not everyone's idea of a good time, but digging through the archives at a newspaper office can be such an enticing way to spend minutes-turned-into-hours. Seeing photos of community members who are now long gone and once-popular events that bring about waves of nostalgia, news from councils that were discussing issues sometimes not so different from today, and the chronicling of life from birth announcements through to obituaries provides a sense of community and togetherness in just a few pages bonded together.

All of those individual stories and snapshots capturing a moment in time in one place become very powerful as a reflection of ourselves – where we came from and where we're going.

I have archives myself, in the form of scrapbooks taped together and newspaper clippings of stories I wrote long ago and already yellowing – my, how time flies. Exactly 25 years ago this week – on Oct. 7, 1996 – I became a student reporter for the *Minden Times*. I was a teenager in Minden, fresh off of a life-changing co-op experience with the *Haliburton County Echo*, with a plan to go to journalism school and likely not an inkling that I would one day return to my hometown, or return to the papers where it all began, so to speak.

I have worked as a reporter for the past four long-standing editors of the *Minden Times*: Jack Brezina, Martha Perkins (at the *Echo*), Jenn Watt and Chad Ingram. I

**SUE TIFFIN**  
Editor

am grateful for the opportunity and encouragement they shared with me, the strength and support they have offered through their mentorship and friendship – not only then, but now, even in these past few weeks. While they all brought something different to these pages and this community, what is true of that legendary group is that they each care very deeply for their local newspapers – again, not only then, but now. While I too will bring something different to these pages and this community than they each did, I share their deep-rooted passion and respect for the people who live and visit here, and for the critical role of community journalism in rural areas.

The *Minden Times* is a product created by a really incredible, exceptionally hard-working team providing an essential

service, often dedicating much of their free time to seeking out the news and stories that people care about, working diligently throughout a pandemic – and it is also created by the community itself. This paper is your paper.

Please reach out and let me know – what do you miss from newspapers gone by, what do you love about your weekly paper, what do you hope to see more of in the future?

The archives tell our stories, as does the paper you're reading now and as will future editions. It is an honour and privilege to be here, help share what matters to you, and try to capture it all in a few pages.

## Kwarky



Kim Wank

“Thank dog for editors! Your the best.”

## Dogged by perfection

**O**N SATURDAY, I took my young English Springer Spaniel Rosie out on her first duck hunt. It was at the river that edges my best friend's new property.

We had two goals that morning. The first was to see if his stretch of the river offered waterfowling opportunities. The second was to shoot a bird so Rosie could make her first retrieve during an actual hunt.

We answered the first question quickly when a low wood duck drake came screaming in on my side. I quickly raised my gun and pulled the trigger and dropped the bird. Unfortunately, it landed in a place where Rosie could not see it and since the water was flowing steadily, Tom got in the boat and retrieved the duck.

Minutes later, however, a second wood duck came in fast and low about three feet off the water on my side. And again, I shot and folded it.

The good news was that Rosie was able to mark this fall and I sent her out for her first retrieve, which she executed beautifully.

The bad news is that was the last shooting opportunity we had.

Though we met all of our goals, Tom and I looked at each other and then addressed the elephant in the room. I'm talking about my monumental blunder.

“Do you know what this means?” he said. “Yes,” I replied while hanging my head in shame.

“Rosie – sweet Rosie – has never seen you miss,” Tom blurted out with some dismay.

“I got carried away,” I replied. “I didn't mean to hit both birds. It just happened.”

“Now you are in for it,” he said.

It was true. I had made the rookie's mistake of providing my dog with ridiculously high expectations. Which meant from here on in, things could only go downhill.

It was really the worst kind of luck. I'm not

saying I'm a bad wing shot, but I will say that I get a thank you card from the ammunition companies' every year.

But on that day, you wouldn't have been able to convince Rosie of that.

Later that day, as I was cleaning my shotgun, she sat at my feet, looked up at me and wagged her tail.

“Don't look at me like that,” I said.

“She seems to be very happy with you,” Jenn said. “It's almost a look of pride, admiration and respect.”

It was true. Rosie was basking in the afterglow of the kind of hunting anomaly that young dogs should never be subjected to.

Now, the next time we hunted with another dog, Rosie would say, “Just so you know, my guy never misses.”

And then when I did, she would feel like I let her down and have to work doubly hard to regain credibility, which wouldn't be easy if a flight or teal or woodcock were in.

No, it would have been far better had I missed both ducks with three shots each, so that Rosie did not harbour such high expectations.

What was I thinking?

Had I just done that, she would have been overjoyed on every hunt thereafter when I actually connected – jumping around with glee like she had won the lottery or something. Instead, from here on in, each miss would just force her to growl at me with frustration in the same way every one of my grade school teachers did.

I should have been a little more considerate.

So that night, I took her aside and explained through words, illustrations, and pantomime that daddy didn't always hit everything he was shooting at, and that he sometimes likes to just shoot holes in the sky.

I hope she believes me. Otherwise, Rosie is going to have a ruff season.

**STEVE GALEA**  
Beyond 35



# IN OTHER WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

## Guns and autumn

**T**HIS IS THE golden time; the best days of the year. Sparkling sunbeams spill from a brilliant blue sky. Golden bronze and crimson leaves catch them, then lose their weakening autumn grip and flutter to the forest floor.

It is prime time for walking the woods and breathing in the gifts of Nature's beauty.

It also is hunting season so I walk with a shotgun, although I have no intention of using it. It is an old Winchester 12-gauge featherweight, long-barrelled and pump action.

It was my dad's duck gun, too heavy-duty for small game in the woods. I carry it not for hunting game, but for memories. Memories are more plentiful than partridge or rabbits.



**JIM POLING SR.**

*From Shaman's Rock*

There's the memory of dad's smile as he pumped spent cartridges from the Winchester and watched three mallards fall into a Northwestern Ontario pond. And, the blow to my shoulder the time he showed me how to shoot.

Sadly, those memories are being pushed aside by facts about how guns are changing our society. The times of guns as part of our heritage are disappearing into the chaos of gun violence.

Gun violence has been increasing steadily in Canada. Statistics Canada reports that criminal use of firearms increased 81 per cent between 2009 and 2019. There were 7,700 victims of crime involving firearms in Canada during 2017, the most recent year for which there are statistics.

Toronto is the epicentre of gun crime, registering 462 of what police call 'firearms events' in 2020. Those events saw 217 people shot and killed or injured.

U.S. figures collected by the Gun Violence Archive are even more shocking. Gun violence is so rampant there that the place should be labelled a third world country.

So far this year there have been roughly 34,000 gun deaths in the United States. Another 31,000 people have been wounded. Those figures include 535 mass shootings and 22 mass murders.

By year's end there will have been between 85,000 and 90,000 shooting deaths and woundings in the U.S.

Children are not being spared. Gun violence became the leading cause of death of American children ages one to 19 in 2018, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). A year later, nine children and teens were killed with guns each day - a total of 3,371 young deaths by guns for 2019.

It is estimated that guns now kill more American children and teens than cancer, pneumonia, influenza, asthma, HIV/AIDs, and opioids combined.

The figures keep climbing but many American politicians resist making laws to control the gun madness. Some, like Senator Elizabeth Warren, a presidential hopeful, try but can't get the needed support.

"If a mysterious virus suddenly started killing eight of our children every day, America would mobilize teams of doctors and public health officials," Warren wrote in her 2014 book *A Fighting Chance*. "We would move heaven and earth until we found a way to protect our children. But not with gun violence."

Gun sales in the states have soared during the COVID-19 pandemic. In March 2020, the first official month of the pandemic, nearly two million guns were sold in 31 days, the second highest number of guns sold in a single month.

Americans now own roughly 400 million firearms, compared with 5.5 million possessed by U.S. military and law enforcement agencies. Nearly one in five firearms are sold without background checks, which are not required for sales at gun shows, online or between private persons.

Canada has significant controls on guns, but few over the factors that help to create gun violence. U.S. and Canadian geography and culture are so tightly tied together that what happens there often develops here.

There is growing demand in both countries that something be done about gun violence. It's not likely that anything will be done soon in the U.S. but certainly there is a growing demand in Canada for politicians to do even more.

What worries me is that when our politicians do more to control guns, they usually end up with more restrictions on lawful gun owners, while criminals continue to get more guns for more crimes against society.

Watching all this I fear that our gun heritage soon will be just a memory.

### letters to the editor

## A Thanksgiving invitation to support the local food bank

To the Editor,

The idea, at MBC, was a simple one: We are all fortunate to be able to cottage or live in this community, and not all the people that make the community what it is are equally fortunate; Let's do something to make it just a bit easier for those in need of some help.

Until COVID complicated matters in 2020, MBC (the Maple, Beech and Cameron Lakes Area Property Owners' Association in the Municipality of Algonquin Highlands) volunteers collected food and money donations at St. Peter's Church, on Maple Lake, over two days on Thanksgiving weekend. Sorted food donations (a couple of pick-up loads on a good year) were delivered straight to the Minden Community Food Centre along with cheques and cash donations. Over the years, and with some matching funds from the MBC itself, we have dropped off tonnes of food and thousands of dollars donated by our members and neighbours.

The pandemic has made it, to say the least, difficult and impractical for the MBC to do food donation collection as in the past, but the association remains committed to supporting the community of which we are so lucky to be a part.

So: This year, the MBC has put out messages to its' membership and our neighbours to give what they can in cash, directly to the MCFC. The MBC and MCFC have arranged to track marked donations so that MBC can match up to \$1,000.

In addition, the MBC is having an appreciation raffle for donations over \$25 (eligible for a tax receipt from MCFC) from its' members.

The MBC would like to invite other lake associations and other organizations to join them in doing what they can to help the Minden Community Food Centre stock up for the fall and winter; Thanksgiving is not just a symbolically good time for helping out, it is also the beginning of the slower times here in the county. With the tourists and cottagers heading off, jobs are scarcer, and times get a bit harder.

Don't forget: food donations are still always appreciated and the MCFC is able, with proper protocols in place, to receive them directly.

Find out the many ways anyone can give by calling them up, or go on-line at [mindenfoodbank.org/donate.html](http://mindenfoodbank.org/donate.html).

**Andy Muirhead**

Director – Maple, Beech and Cameron Lakes Area Property Owner's Association

## Thankful for community generosity

To the Editor,

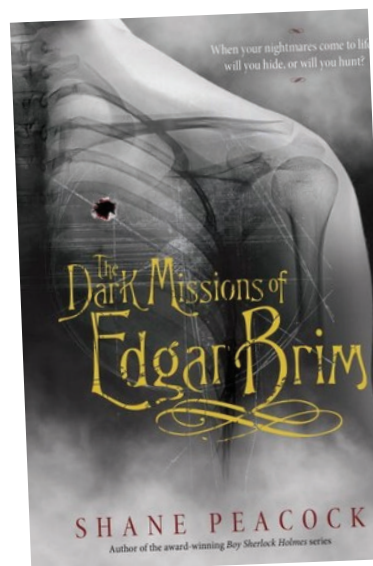
The Minden Community Food Centre would like to thank the residents, cottagers and visitors for their generous donations at the Minden

Beer Store for our food bank. It is very much appreciated.

**Don Veno**

Chairman, Minden Community Food Centre

### Jr. Book of the Month - October



16-year-old Edgar Brim is an orphan who, exposed to horror stories early by his deceased novelist father, suffers from nightly terrors. When his new guardian sends him to a gloomy school in Scotland, Edgar's dark demons only intensify, and he's bullied and ridiculed for his fears. But after the horrific death of a schoolmate, Edgar becomes determined to confront his nightmares. With help from his professor, Edgar becomes involved with an eccentric society who believe that monsters from famous works of literature are real – and that Edgar himself might hold the key to destroying them. With the aid of a rag-tag crew of friends, the fear-addled teen sets about on his dark mission, one that begins in the cemetery on the bleak Scottish moors and ends in a spine-chilling climax on the stage of the Royal Lyceum Theatre in London.

With nods to classic horror, this is the first tale in an atmospheric historical gothic trilogy perfect for reading on a chilly fall night. Check it out from the Haliburton County Public Library today.



Have a thought, comment or opinion you'd like to share?

Send a letter to the editor to  
[sue@haliburtonpress.com](mailto:sue@haliburtonpress.com)





**Special showcase**

A family looks at the work created by artist Sophie Creelman during the 34th annual The Studio Tour - Haliburton Highlands on Saturday Oct. 2. The tour, which includes 35 artists representing a variety of media at 23 locations in Haliburton County, continues this coming weekend, Oct. 9 to 10. See the Sept. 30 *County Life* for the full list of artists and locations./DARREN LUM Staff

Mosaics and clay works artist, Cathy Taylor, from left, speaks with a guest about her work at the 34th annual The Studio Tour.



Artist Wayne Rose performs the elbow bump that has taken the place of a handshake during the pandemic.



Artist Paul Savage holds up a knife he made for the 34th annual The Studio Tour.



An example of the pottery created by Renee Woltz.



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## MEET YOUR NEIGHBOURS

## Rich Hevesi carves wood into art

by SUE TIFFIN  
Editor

Seven years ago, Rich Hevesi decided to get away from his desk job as a web developer and instead, picked up a chainsaw. Now, the full-time chainsaw carver and founder of Breakthru Designs carves year-round and is booking custom orders of detailed pieces into next year.

"I just kind of got sick and tired of sitting in front of the computer," Hevesi laughs. "I'm comfortable with a chainsaw, I'm artsy, I thought, I can do this! And started! Why not?"

Hevesi had only used a chainsaw really to cut firewood when he saw someone demonstrating chainsaw carving on television and began practicing. He credits that effort for his skills improving, acknowledging that his first designs lacked detail compared to what he can do now.

"Practice, practice," he said. "The online community for the carvers is actually really good. Everyone's willing to help and share their experiences and what not. It is more just, keep doing it, try to better yourself and if you're not improving you're going backwards in my opinion. I just try to better myself. I follow some of the top carvers in the world, get inspired, and try to duplicate what they're doing."

Hevesi uses softwood, most of it white pine, which he sources from local loggers.

"Pretty much everything's white pine," he



While detailed wildlife sculptures and custom creations are popular pieces for Carnarvon artist Rich Hevesi of Breakthru Designs, he said he sells hundreds of chainsaw-carved pumpkins a year – even in the summer. / Submitted photo

said. "It holds up well, it's nice to work with and it's the wood of choice."

He doesn't draw a design first, and rarely sketches out his plan on the wood itself, instead getting right to it – noise-cancelling

headphones in place - with his tools, including about a dozen saws, dremel tools and grinders and different sanders.

"There's risks, but you've just got to be careful and know your tools," he said. "Get

help from some other folks, and go from there."

From owls to black bears, bees and a seven-foot horse bust, benches with initials and wedding dates inscribed in their side and not one, but two hippopotamus coffee tables, Hevesi loves the challenge of creating what is requested, with customers driving from Ottawa, Sudbury, and out east to see his work.

About three years ago, a friend suggested he carve some pumpkins from wood, designing each with a unique face.

"So I did half a dozen, and boom, sold," said Hevesi. "The next year, you do 50 to 100 of them – sold. And then this year I started carving them in the wintertime, just when you have a bit of a lapse ... and by July, I had a whole bunch of them. I posted them – but I didn't think anyone would buy pumpkins in the middle of the summer. I sold 50 or 60 pumpkins in July."

This year alone, he's sold more than 300 pumpkins.

Hevesi works regular hours, either carving or painting and staining when the carving itself becomes physically tiring.

"Seven days a week, and it's fun," he said. "When it's something you like, it doesn't feel like work. It's diametrically opposite from sitting in front of the computer, and I love it. I'm dirty and covered in sawdust and it's great."

For more information visit <http://www.breakthru designs.ca>, email [rich.hevesi@gmail.com](mailto:rich.hevesi@gmail.com) or call 705-286-0888.

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Getting trained on the Gull

Above, a firefighter with the Minden Fire Emergency Services is successful with getting the throwbag out to a mock victim.

Left, Minden Fire Emergency Services captain Graham Holt works with a firefighter during a multi-day training session on Wednesday, Sept. 29 at the Minden Whitewater Preserve in Minden. There were 12 firefighters who stayed in the area to receive hands-on water rescue training at the Gull River facility from Sept. 28 to Oct. 1. /DARREN LUM Staff

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This SkillsAdvance Ontario (SAO) program is open to high school graduates, early school leavers, unemployed, and underemployed youth and adults. EI eligible and non-EI eligible, women, Indigenous peoples and newcomers to Canada are encouraged to apply.



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## Fore a good cause

John Kerr joined the Minden Rotary Club in July and hosted the club's first of a planned annual golf tournament at Gull River Golf Club on Sept. 20. There were 45 golfers out enjoying the fall weather. The club thanks hole sponsors Dentistry in the Highlands, Lisa Mercer RE/MAX Professionals North, Lynda Litwin RE/MAX Professionals North, Steve Kerr Denture Clinic, Kirby Keks Century 21 Granite Realty Group Inc., Mike Hollimore Consolidated Enterprises Ltd., Andy Campbell Century 21 Granite Realty Group Inc., Barry Cray Gordon Monk Funeral Home, Tammy Larue Minden Subaru, Molly's Bistro Bakery, Scott Baker Horseshoe Lake Handyman Service and Kelly Mercer RE/MAX Professionals North. There was a fun raffle and prize table with donations from Boshkung Brewing Co., Lynda Litwin RE/MAX Professionals North, Wintergreen, Dominion Hotel, Gull River GC, John Kerr, Sharon Foster, Mike Hollimore Consolidated Enterprises Ltd., and Molly's Bistro Bakery. /Submitted photo

# 'Some light at the end of the tunnel' during the fourth wave

by **SUE TIFFIN**  
Editor

Working collaboratively to support each other and reaching out for care to access all of the available resources remain two key messages during the fourth wave and after more than a year and a half of the COVID-19 pandemic, said Jack Veitch, manager of community engagement and education, Canadian Mental Health Association, Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge.

"I think it's safe to say everybody is experiencing strain or stress," said Veitch. "I think it's safe to say for many there is sort of some more hope coming into this wave. The wave, the latest news is saying it's plateaued, and I think there's some – I wouldn't say all, but some if not many – that are actually excited about the vaccinations and seeing an opportunity. Obviously others are not. I think there is some level of hope in this wave, which for me is a really positive outlook. Some light at the end of the tunnel, almost."

## Healthy lifestyle for wellness as winter approaches

"We're living in a constant state of stressor," said Veitch. "For many of us, constantly. If you have your body in that fight or flight response every day, all day for months, it's just inevitably, it crumbles. You can't carry weight like that for a long time and it's why it's so important that we're doing things for our mental health and wellness."

Veitch notes there are simple things to do to get ourselves on the right track that he speaks to often: Making a conscious effort to eat as healthy as possible – with treats, too; getting a good night's sleep – sleeping properly and regularly, focusing on the circadian rhythm; being active and getting outdoors and socializing with others in safe ways with social distance in place.

"The lifestyle pieces, now more than ever, especially coming into the winter, we're going to have shorter days, we're going to have less sunlight, we're going to have less opportunity to be out, outdoors doing fun things," he said. "So let's start to be more proactive. Let's start to plan. Let's start to build plans for, what could I do in the coming months? What am I looking forward to? What safe activities could I be engaged in? And building those plans now. Let's plan ahead for the winter that we know is coming."

## Parents encouraged to 'focus on the things we can control'

Sending a largely unvaccinated group of children back to school during the fourth wave, with the highly contagious Delta variant making headlines throughout Europe and the United States, Veitch said there is a feeling of "walking on eggshells" for many in the community.

"We're sending our kids to school and we're just really hoping, really hoping it's going to be OK," he said.

"I think what I would encourage parents to do is to focus

on the things we can control," he said. "It's really easy to sort of get into that spiral state of, "oh my goodness, I'm going to send my kids to school, then they're going to get sick, then I'm going to have to take time off work, then we'll have to take the test, then they're going to close the schools, then I'll be working from home ... it's easy to sort of snowball, though I would say let's focus on the things we can control, and focus on today."

Preparing, if possible, for a contingency plan and knowing how a family might adapt to changes and disruptions and possible illness throughout the school year can be helpful.

"But really start to break it down into manageable chunks," he said. "It's actually a piece of cognitive behavioural therapy, trying to chunk out tasks. When we look at a mountain in front of us and the mountain is trying to get through the school year, that can be overwhelming. But if I break it down to more manageable chunks – what am I going to do to get through this week with my kids, what is the plan going to be for schooling, for home care. What am I going to do - intentionally building in time - and I can't stress this enough, for that self-care and my own wellness. How am I going to make it through these little bits of time? A little bit at a time, break it down into chunks. There's a saying in this therapy – how do you eat an elephant? Well, you eat it one bite at a time. If you think about eating the whole thing it's going to be overwhelming, but we just focus on one bite at a time."

With the announcement that vaccines might soon be approved for use in children under 12, Veitch said many are celebrating. "But I know for others, there's probably a lot of anxious moments and fear and I think sort of recognizing that for many and validating that for a lot is important, too. Hopefully, through conversation and discussion, we can help to alleviate a lot of those stressors and fears that people might have."

## Getting through this, together

With emotions being heightened at this time, the choice for some to be vaccinated and others to choose not to receive the vaccine, or for some to gather while others don't has created monumental rifts in relationships.

"Meeting someone's resistance with anger or defiance or frustration is going to be an ill-effective way – an ineffective way – to work through conversation," said Veitch. "Meeting their position with anger or frustration doesn't create opportunity for anyone to move forward or learn or change opinion. It sort of encourages them to firm their ground, to defend their position. What I would encourage people to do, is that instead of meeting that sort of defiance with the facts or stats, the 'here's where you're wrong, here's what doctors are saying...' I would focus on validating their feelings. Every behaviour serves a purpose, healthy or unhealthy. If this person has a really firmly held behaviour or position, it's rooted in their feelings, somewhere. It's rooted in something. Maybe it's fear, maybe it's frustration, maybe it's anger for a sense of loss of control. Let's focus on those feelings."

In that case, Veitch said we can acknowledge how people feel, and ask about how they're feeling, if they're frustrated, and what we can do to help them feel better, or who else can they talk to to help alleviate some of those feelings.

"Instead of being angry or defiant or aggressive ... I heard it said once that when two people disagree, that the stronger I argue their point, I don't work to change their mind, I just further show them why they disagree with me," said Veitch. "Instead of that, let's focus on the feelings they might be feeling, try to find that common ground, and encourage them to sort of reach out to those trusted medical professionals that could help them answer some of their questions or help them address those feelings they might be experiencing."

## Is this OK? Taking note of prolongment and impairment

"I think it's really important for many people to acknowledge, and for all of us to say, you're not alone," said Veitch. "If you're feeling anxious or stressed or overwhelmed, those are feelings that you're not experiencing on an island, I hope, there are others there, too and there are things you can do to be well."

It's essential, he said, to take some time to self-reflect.

"Do that little check in – how am I doing?," said Veitch. "How are things going for me? How long have I felt the way I'm feeling, and what can I do to be well? How can I make intentional time to focus on my wellness? It's hard, you know, to build time for ourselves, when we spend our whole lives, especially as parents or caregivers caring for everybody else. Let's intentionally schedule time to take care of our own health and wellness."

Veitch said that when he would do sessions on anxiety and depression in front of a live crowd, pre-pandemic, he would see audience members with a pen and paper checking off what seemed to be a list as he was speaking.

"It was almost as if they were saying, OK, once I get enough checkmarks, or enough little ticks, then it's time for me to reach out for help," he said. "And what I'll always tell people is, when is the right time to reach out for help? Whenever you want. If I had low mood and anxious feelings for seven minutes and I did not want to feel that way, there are absolutely things I can do to better improve that mood or those feelings. Again, it's not always intensive psychotherapy or a dedicated medication regime – it might be – but it's those little things I can do to actively engage my mental wellness. If I feel low for two minutes, and I want to work to improve it, let's get up, let's get active, get outside, get some sunlight, call a friend, reach out to a colleague. The little things you can do to work on your mood right away."

## Resources available

Bounceback, a free, guided self-led program aims to help people experiencing mild-to-moderate anxiety or depression, who may be feeling low, jealous, angry, stressed or irritable. Visit [BouncebackOntario.ca](http://BouncebackOntario.ca) or call 1-866-345-0224 for more information.

Free, professional, confidential crisis support for anyone struggling with mental health, relationships, addiction or work life, 24 hours a day, seven days a week is available by calling Four County Crisis at 705-745-6484 or 1-866-995-9933. Visit <http://cmhahkpr.ca/> for more information.



# Public input on shoreline preservation bylaw heard at open house

by **KATRINA BOGUSKI**  
*Times Staff*

On Sept. 29 Haliburton County council hosted its second virtual open house to discuss the proposed draft shoreline preservation bylaw. Participants could access the meeting via Zoom or via telephone. As of press time, the recording of the meeting, which is available on the county’s YouTube site, had 759 views. This amount is more than 10 times the average number of views for most videos listed on the county’s channel. The only other video to exceed this number of views was the first virtual open house held on the same topic.

The popularity of this video, and the number of residents represented through various delegations, is evidence of the weightiness of this topic. Despite the complexity of the issues raised by the proposed bylaw, and the variety of opposing views it exposes, the tone of the meeting was both civil and conciliatory. Although multiple presenters raised concerns about a lack of response to their submissions sent earlier, some presenters did commend the consultants for their willingness to listen and for their consideration of points that had been made to date. These consultants were from two firms which were brought on board to make recommendations about the bylaw.

A statement posted on the county’s website says, “In light of the significant interest in this issue and the Draft By-law, the County retained external, independent consultants to review the matter and return with professional recommendations on a new Shoreline Preservation By-law for the County. Hutchinson Environmental Sciences

Limited and J.L. Richards & Associates Ltd. have been retained by the County to lead this exercise.”

Warden Liz Danielsen opened the meeting with comments noting that council’s role at the meeting was to listen to the delegations, regardless of the views they presented. She also noted that council would not be responding to questions during the meeting.

The initial draft of the proposed bylaw is available on the county’s website for residents and stakeholders to read. Warden Danielsen said that she wanted to be clear that the consultants would only be using the draft bylaw as a possible baseline in developing a new document for council’s consideration in October.

Danielsen also addressed the concern and disappointment raised by some people who had requested the option to use a PowerPoint presentation during their delegation. She not-

ed that the decision to not allow such presentations was based on the desire to provide equitable treatment of all presenters more than on expediency. She said, “Those individuals making delegations at our initial meeting didn’t have that opportunity and we want to make sure that we offer fair and equitable treatment for all those who have comments that they wish to make.”

At the close of the meeting, after thanking representatives from both companies, the Warden said, “... Good work. It’s really great to hear from the public and to hear the different perspectives.” She also added that council continues to receive public input on this issue through other means of communication such as email. She confirmed that council is continuing to listen to stakeholders, regardless of their perspective on the issues related to shoreline preservation.

“  
It’s really great to hear from the public and to hear the different perspectives.  
— COUNTY WARDEN LIZ DANIELSEN  
”

County	Current Cases Not Resolved	Current High Risk Contacts	Current Probable Cases	Confirmed Cases (Total to date)	Confirmed Cases Resolved (Total to Date)	Hospitalizations (Total to date)	Confirmed Deaths (Total to date)	Probable Deaths (Total to date)
Haliburton	1	5	0	148	146	3	1	0
Kawartha Lakes	4	37	0	1,293	1,244	51	45	13
Northumberland	5	23	0	1,000	978	36	17	0
Total***	10	76	0	2,441	2,368	90	63	13

## One new case of COVID-19

In Monday’s case count from the HKPR health unit, one case of COVID-19 was being reported, that case being identified in a Haliburton County resident. As of press time, there are 10 cases in total in the HKPR region, with 76 current high-risk contacts./Screenshot from the HKPR website



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A shuffleboard player sends a disc on Wednesday, Sept. 29 at the courts in Minden.



Right, players elbow bump following their shuffleboard game.

### Autumn finale

Above, players take in the last game of the shuffleboard season on Wednesday, Sept. 29 at the courts in Minden. The games were held Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays every week and were organized by the Minden Senior's Shuffleboard Club, which was founded in 1985. With COVID-19 protocols, the eight end games (singles and doubles) were recreational this season, which started the last weekend of May, and required players to wear masks and use hand sanitizer.  
/DARREN LUM Staff

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Rotary road toll reaches out

Rotarian Bill Roodenburg, right, led Minden Rotary Club in another successful road toll on Labour Day long weekend. Lynda Litwin, left, president of the club, said “Thank you to the community for supporting this fundraiser so that Rotary can continue to support the community programs on an annual basis.” /Submitted photo



Inspired by Terry

This year's route for walkers and runners included the Halbiem Crescent for the 24th annual Terry Fox Run held by the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School on Wednesday, Sept., 29 in Haliburton. Faculty and students ran and walked from the school, heading west on Highland Street, then completed the Halbiem Crescent loop and returned to school on Highland Street. The school raised \$2,500 for the Terry Fox Foundation. / DARREN LUM Staff



Archie Stouffer Elementary School students participated in a Terry Fox Run event held throughout the day on Sept. 29. In total, the school raised more than \$1,200 toward cancer research. /Submitted photos



Staff and students participating in the Terry Fox Run at ASES were able to note who they were running for on a sticker, some acknowledging friends, family members, or Terry Fox himself.

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## GENERATIONS

# Giving children the best start in life

We have had a busy summer, and now fall, offering a variety of programs to families in Haliburton County. You may have seen our banner flying in Rotary Park in Minden or Head Lake Park in Haliburton, where we have been having fun each week dancing, singing, enjoying stories, and sharing a variety of hands-on activities while following COVID-19 guidelines from the health unit. Whether it's chasing giant bubbles, getting creative or exploring nature, there is always something your little one will enjoy. Coming on October 22 we will also be offering a fall and pumpkin adventure at Abbey Gardens. It's so great to get to visit them once again. Registration will be required – please watch for details.

If you can't make it to one of our outdoor programs, there are other options available for connecting with families and accessing resources. You will find parent tip sheets, videos, and activity pages posted on our Facebook page which provide ideas and information on a variety of topics. Why not try one of our online Zoom programs which are available most mornings – we have Jump and Jiggle, Songs and Stories, Sharing Nature, and Early Bird Bingo, just to name a few. An evening Parenting 101 session is also available, where parents can chat and ask questions, gaining support from EarlyON staff as well as each other. Zoom programs are a great way to get together from a distance. They are informal, friendly and from the comfort of home! Please contact us if you need more information or assistance setting this up.

Another popular program has been our “to Your Door” mail-outs such as Books, Science, and Scavenger Hunts. Families can sign up to receive a package which engages children in a variety of fun ways through books, activity pages, and supplies. These promote literacy, early learning skills and creativity through projects you can do as a family. So far this fall we have offered “The Little Acorn,” and a Halloween Craft and Activity pack – both which reached capacity within hours!

It has been wonderful connecting with familiar and new faces, online and in the park. We look forward to seeing you inside once again when we are able.

Stay tuned for more program information, and to register for any of our in-person programs through our Facebook page at [oeyc.haliburtonvictoriabrock](https://www.facebook.com/oeyc.haliburtonvictoriabrock), website at [oeyc.ca](https://www.oeyc.ca) or call us at 705-324-7900.

*Submitted by Julie Bosker  
EarlyON Child and Family Centre  
Program coordinator*



Ezra Waito, with his mom Kristy, has fun sorting fall colours and practising scissor skills with leaves.



Verity and her Nanna Sheila examine nature items with a magnifying glass.



Callum Fildey, age 2, has fun making red apple prints.



Dahlia Bowman, 13 months, and her mom Mandie enjoyed the storytime, dancing, and songs at the EarlyON park program in Minden on Sept. 30.

## SUDOKU SOLUTION

2	8	9	1	7	6	5	3	4
4	1	6	2	5	3	9	8	7
7	5	3	4	8	9	6	2	1
8	3	4	9	2	7	1	6	5
1	6	7	3	4	5	8	9	2
5	9	2	6	1	8	7	4	3
9	2	1	7	6	4	3	5	8
6	4	5	8	3	1	2	7	9
3	7	8	5	9	2	4	1	6



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### PUBLIC NOTICE

Applicant: Dalton & Hassan  
Lot 4, Concession 2  
Geographic Township of Stanhope

**WHEREAS** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Algonquin Highlands has declared part of the original shore road allowance lying in front of Lot 4, Concession 2, in the geographic Township of Stanhope, in the Township of Algonquin Highlands, County of Haliburton, to be surplus.

**TAKE NOTICE** that the Council of the Municipal Corporation of the Township of Algonquin Highlands proposes to enact a By-Law to stop-up, close and convey to the abutting property owner(s) that part of the original shore road allowance lying in front of Lot 4, Concession 2, described as all and singular that certain parcel or tract of land and premises situate, lying and being in the Geographic Township of Stanhope, in the County of Haliburton and being composed of the following:

**FIRSTLY:** THAT part of Lot 4, Concession 2, described as Part 1 on a Plan deposited in the Registry Office for the Registry Division of Haliburton County as Plan 19R-10522.

The proposed By-Law will come before the said Council for consideration at its regular meeting at the Algonquin Highlands Municipal Office, 1123 North Shore Road, on the 21st day of October, 2021 and at that time, the Council will hear in person or by his/her counsel, solicitor or agent any person who claims that his/her land will be prejudicially affected and who applies to be heard. Any person who wishes to be heard by Council regarding this proposed closure must contact the Clerk to schedule a delegation with Council.

Dated: October 6th, 2021

**Sean O'Callaghan**  
Planner  
Township of Algonquin Highlands  
1123 North Shore Rd.  
Algonquin Highlands, ON K0M 1J1  
Tel: (705) 489-2379  
Email: [socallaghan@algonquinhighlands.ca](mailto:socallaghan@algonquinhighlands.ca)



# Do you remember ... Isabel Curry?

ISABEL WAS one of the six daughters of Dr. Charles Curry, Minden's first doctor, who is pictured on the wall of the Minden post office.

The family had a well-to-do life, living in a 14-room brick home on Newcastle Street. But after the death of Dr. Curry in 1905 at the age of 61, his widow and five unmar-



**ADELE ESPINA**  
*History in the Highlands*

ried children left Minden, first for Peterborough, then for Winnipeg, where Mrs. Curry's aged mother and siblings had settled. There the four unmarried Curry daughters were featured in the society pages while his one surviving son moved further

west to become a druggist in Alberta.

Isabel, a spinster all her life, retired to Minden after a nursing career in Winnipeg and lived at Ingleside Cottage at Gull Lake. She busied herself with the Minden Women's Institute and St. Paul's Anglican Church Women's Auxiliary.

In 1942, when she was 60 years old, she penned this poem on Thanksgiving Day at Ingleside Cottage:

**Notice**  
*Now, any leaves that cross this line,  
Without a doubt, will receive a fine;  
The fate that befell poor Sam McGee  
Will surely be the fate for thee.  
Not only that, your ashes will sleep,  
In Isabel's Garden, good and deep;  
Never again will you adorn a tree  
In vegetables sweet, you'll be eaten by me.*



Isabel Steuart Curry lived from 1883 to 1967. Her gravestone can be found at Minden Cemetery. /Photo by Adele Espina

She died in 1967 and is buried in the family plot in Minden Cemetery. Do you have any memories or photos of Isabel and her family? Are the big, brick home on Newcastle Street and Ingleside Cottage on Gull Lake still standing? Share your thoughts to sue@haliburtonpress.com.



In this photo of the Curry children and Kimpton cousins, circa 1867, Isabel Curry can be seen standing in the top row, on the right. The six children of Charles' second marriage are in the photo, plus the two Kimpton children who are his sister Olivia's children. /Lydia Coulter Scrapbook Collection, Minden Hills Museum (Photocopies available for research at Haliburton Highlands Genealogy Group room in the Minden library)

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	8		1		6			4
4		6	2				8	
7		3		8	9			1
8				2	7		6	
	6		3				9	
5	9							3
	2	1				3		
			8	3			7	9
	7		5					6

### Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

### Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers on page 15

## THE TOWNSHIP OF MINDEN HILLS

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### REQUEST FOR INTERESTED PARTIES

The Township of Minden Hills is looking for individuals and/or companies for the clean-up of properties as per Property Standards By-Law 11-61.

Interested Parties would be required to perform any or all of the following duties:

- Clean up or Removal of:
- Household garbage
- Miscellaneous debris
- Building materials
- Rubbish
- Brush/long grass/growth and noxious weeds (as defined by the Weed Controlled Act)
- Unlicensed/dismantled/wrecked/discarded vehicles/trailers/boats/machinery
- Dilapidated/collapsed, fully constructed or partially constructed structures

Proof of Liability Insurance in the amount of \$5 Million with The Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills named as additional insured and WSIB are mandatory.

Please submit letters of interest along with proof of Liability Insurance and WSIB coverage by mail, in person or email to:

#### Mail:

Property Standards/Clerks Department  
Township of Minden Hills  
PO Box 359, 7 Milne Street  
Minden, ON  
K0M 2K0

Email: [sprentice@mindenhills.ca](mailto:sprentice@mindenhills.ca)



## AROUND THE COUNTY TOWN



### Hockey night in Minden

Chase Kerr, Hunter Hamilton and Travis Rowe cheered on the new home team at the Haliburton County Huskies home opener last Saturday. "Having this level of hockey in our home town is such a bonus for our younger players," said Mike Hamilton, who coaches the U11 rep program and took the kids to the game. "To keep them interested in the game and be able to see some of our own hometown players out there gives them something to strive for. It was also nice to see the new arena and feel a bit of normalcy, taking in a game with the boys!" /Photo by Mike Hamilton

## The more you know

We're saving space on this page for you and what you've learned along the way. In this spot here, you are invited to share your practical advice about how to do any particular thing. Did you learn something from a grandparent that has stuck with you for life? Are you known in your social circles for being able to fix anything with a little elbow grease? Have you found a unique way to do something differently? Here's your chance to contribute to the collective wisdom of our community – you never know who might read your guidance and take it with them, going forward.

#### Some ideas:

- how to be crowned as the reigning potluck champion
- how to put a garden to bed
- how to remove a stain

- how to remember names of people you just met
- how to identify birds by their song or trees by their leaves
- how to get a car unstuck from the mud
- how to deter wasps from the back deck
- how to make something for your kids/grandkids
- how to do a neat thing or two on your phone
- how to salvage a burnt cake when the company you're serving it to is pulling into the driveway

Send 'how to' submissions about 200 to 250 words in length (the length of what you're reading now) to [sue@haliburtonpress.com](mailto:sue@haliburtonpress.com). Submissions must include name and telephone number, and may be edited for length and clarity.



### Enjoying October

Gordon Schmidt has been obsessed with the fall colours and decor. / Submitted by Heather Kennedy



### Fall fun

Skylar Baranowski, three-and-a-half years old, is one of the newest residents of Minden Hills having recently moved to the area with her family. She's a friend of Walkabout Farm Therapeutic Riding Association Inc., where she celebrated the season with a pumpkin-filled photoshoot on Sept. 23. /Photo by Lyndsie Fliss

To see your loved ones on this page, send photos to [sue@haliburtonpress.com](mailto:sue@haliburtonpress.com).

## Community Events

Send your event listing to Pat Lewis at [classifieds@haliburtonpress.com](mailto:classifieds@haliburtonpress.com)

### W.O.W (Women of the Word)

An inter-denominational women's Bible study  
When: Wednesday mornings 9:15 to 11:45 a.m., beginning Oct. 6  
Where: Lakeside Church, Haliburton  
Three options of study available.  
Cost \$30 administration fee plus book cost. Financial assistance is available. Free child care provided. For more information or to register; [www.mylakeside.ca](http://www.mylakeside.ca) or call church office 705-457-2851

### Minden Lions Club - Octoberfest Dinner

When: Saturday, October 16th  
First Sitting 5 p.m., Second Sitting 6:30 p.m.  
Book Your Table of 4 or 6 people by Oct. 14. \$20.00 per person. Seating is limited and must be booked in advance. Call: 705-286-6476 or email [mindenlions@lionsa16.com](mailto:mindenlions@lionsa16.com)

### Leaf Drop Disc Golf Tournament

When: Oct. 23  
Where: Abbey Gardens Disc Golf Trail, Haliburton  
All proceeds from this tournament are going towards the Abbey Retreat Centre, a local charity that supports people who have received a cancer diagnosis and their families. More information can be found at [www.dgscene.com/leafdrop](http://www.dgscene.com/leafdrop).

### Canadian Federation of University Women

Ladies, join our many gatherings such as hiking, cuisine, euchre, bridge, book club, study group and many more to come! Enjoy our monthly speaker series including comedians, health care professionals, women's issues, awareness, etc. Please go to our website for more info on this amazing group -CFUW-HH.



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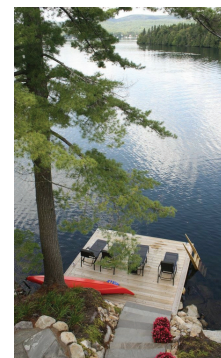
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Resumes can be submitted to: [ashley@abbeygardens.ca](mailto:ashley@abbeygardens.ca)

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Detailed resumes from qualified applicants are to be submitted no later than 4:30pm on Friday, October 15, 2021 to Andrea Bull, Director of Corporate Services at [abull@haliburtoncounty.ca](mailto:abull@haliburtoncounty.ca)

We thank all who apply for this position; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

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Interested candidates should forward their resume and writing samples to Publisher, David Zilstra by Friday, October 15th.

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- Good communication skills
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# Name games

by Jerry Grozelle

The name game continues in SLAHM.

Twenty-five submissions for a new name for Snowdon, Lutterworth, Anson, Hindon and Minden (SLAHM) were received by the Selection Committee. Explaining the process which will eventually lead to the naming of the amalgamated municipalities, Wendy Ladurantaye, chair of the committee, noted that a few of the proposed names had to be discounted.

"We are not allowed to use 'et al', or 'amalgamated township of'," she explained.

The committee studied the 25 submissions and came up with a short list. Members of the SLAHM Transition Board, as well as the public and members of the press who attended Thursday's meeting were invited to vote on a first and second choice from the short list.

By the time the straw poll was tallied, the two names which emerged as the leaders were Minden Hills and Five Rivers.

The committee will consider input from the meeting and make a recommendation at the next Transition Board meeting. Ladurantaye said the official name of the new municipality will start with "The Incorporated

(more on page 3)



In the glare of television lights, Ontario Premier Mike Harris responds to questions from the media following a meeting of the Progressive Conservative caucus at PineStone Resort last-week. The Conservatives gathered here Wednesday and Thursday to plan strategy for the upcoming session of the Legislature. Local MPP Chris Hodgson can be seen, centre right, watching the proceedings. For a report on the press conference, see page 3.

## Some HHSS teachers will supervise extra-curricular activities

There will be extra-curricular activities offered at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School this year. However, the selection and the depth of the activities will not match what has been available at the school in previous years.

The teachers at HHSS met Thursday to discuss their role in supervising after school activities and clubs. According to principal Gary Brohman, the

meeting provided a forum for an open and frank exchange of views. He said some teachers were uncertain as to whether the demands of the new curriculum and the increased teaching and student monitoring responsibilities would leave adequate time for them to take on an extra-curricular activity. Other teachers indicated that being involved with students outside of the classroom was vital to their own

professional experience. (An overview of the emotional range expressed at the meeting can be found in a letter to the editor appearing on page seven of this edition of *The Times*.)

At the moment the teachers are working without a contract with the Trillium Lakelands District Board of Education. In other jurisdictions, sec-

(more on page 18)

## SPECIAL REPORT: Burning issues

# New process could extend life of land-fill sites while critics are concerned about other impacts

Dysart Council is looking at a new way of managing the community's mounting garbage. Its findings could have implications for municipalities throughout the Highlands.

Burlington-based Eco Waste Solutions specializes in alternative combustion technology. It has been suggested the system will be able to reduce Dysart landfill's waste volume by up to 90%. This will extend the life of the dump by up to 50 years.

While the council is considering the idea, other municipalities are keeping a close eye on the process. The spectre of limited life spans for existing dumps sites loom large for most municipal councils. Opening new sites is costly and politically difficult, so any system that offers to extend the life of existing landfill sites could be an attractive alternative.

The process is simple. Eco Waste Systems uti-

lizes a two-stage thermal waste oxidizing approach that keeps air emissions at low levels. The first stage consists of what is called a sub-stoichiometric (starved air) burning or combustion process followed by a thorough cleansing of gases in the second after-burning phase which is used for pollution control. The system meets stringent atmospheric regulations and reduces waste volumes, therefore relieving burdens on existing landfill sites.

The Eco Waste systems can handle both solid and liquid waste. The system Dysart Council is considering is monitored by computer equipment. Low operating temperatures prevent the melting of metals and glass. Because of this, Eco-waste claims there is no need to pre-sort waste.

Tests have shown that ash produced by the burning is non-leaching and non-hazardous. Optional Heat Recovery equipment can be used to capture en-

ergy from the burning of waste in the oxidizer. The ozone layer is protected through the oxidation of waste. It has been suggested that landfills are known to contribute significantly to the greenhouse effect with their toxic air emissions.

While the system does promise to reduce the volume of the waste stream, extend the life of landfill sites and have minimal impact on the environment, there are those who question some of the benefits. The County Advisory Committee for the Environment, for one, has suggested the system could hurt the recycling efforts in the county.

In an effort to provide a comprehensive overview of the issues, Times reporter Matthew Sitler talked with Dysart Reeve Murray Fearrey, representatives of the Ministry of Environment and the county committee. The reports appear on pages 4 and 8.

## Legacy.

From humble beginnings in 1953, we have grown to become a recognized insurance brokerage in the Highlands. When my grandfather, Floyd Hall, started the brokerage

he focused on building relationships. That remains our objective to this day. Our clients typically know us by name, call us directly or personally visit our office to discuss their needs. We thank them for the trust they place in us. For those who don't know us, we welcome your inquiry.

**Minden**  
705.286.1270  
**Haliburton**  
705.457.1732  
ghall@floydhallinsurance.com

**Floyd Hall Limited**  
Insurance Brokers

**fhl**





Adele Barry  
705-457-0306

### Grass Lake \$999,000

- Fisherman's paradise
- 5 chain lake system
- B & B potential
- 4 Bedroom 3.5 Bathroom



Dagmar Boettcher\*\*  
457-5968

### Close to Haliburton \$599,900

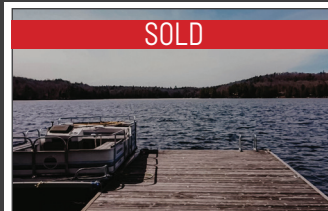
- 3 bed 2 bath 1560sf home
- Completely renovated and updated
- New windows, furnace, a/c, septic
- 2.3 acres, paved school bus route



Andy Campbell  
854-0292

### Minden Area Home \$425,000

- 2 bedroom home south of Minden
- 7.9 acres
- Easy access off of Municipal road
- Needs some TLC



Gloria Carnochan\* & Breen Budel\*  
754-1932

### Unique spot Kennisis Lake \$1,499,000

- 2021 Market still Active
- Are you thinking about listing
- Do you know the value in today's market
- Call us today, for more information



Mark Denny's\*  
457-0473

### Haliburton Commercial Lease

- Prime Downtown Retail Space Opportunity
- Apprx 2100 Sq Ft, Large Display Windows
- Busy Corner of Highland St & Maple Ave
- Contact Listing Realtor for Details



Tom Ecclestone\*  
286-2138 x 226

### Overlooking Miners Bay \$799,900

- Exclusive residential community
- Estate size lots, custom homes
- Shared waterfront opportunities
- Contact listing representative for details.



Lindsay Elder\*  
457-5878

### Gooderham \$199,000

- Almost 17 acres with 345' on Irondale River
- 2 lots-in-one, with year-round access



Melanie Hevesi\*\*  
854-1000

### Find me now at 35 & 118

- Certified Luxury Home Marketing Specialist
- Thinking about selling in today's market?
- Call ME TODAY!



Andrew Hodgson\*\*  
286-2138 x 229

### Gooderham Home \$799,900

- Well maintained home on over 55 acres
- 2,200 Sq Ft, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms
- Large shop/garage with ample storage
- Ideal private location just outside of town



Susanne James\* & Andy Mosher\*\*  
457-2128 x 133

### Miskwabi Lake Lot

- 1.15 acres on Miskwabi Lake
- Gorgeous hard sand and rock shoreline
- Easy year-round road access
- 20 minutes to Haliburton Village



David Lee\*  
286-2138 x 227

### Gull River Minden

- 200 Ft waterfront, 1.29 Acres
- 3 bdrm, 2bath, 1225 sf
- Modern, open-concept, 4 season
- Large deck, gazebo, boat to town



Donna McCallum\*  
455-2054

### Haliburton Home \$449,000

- 3 bedroom, 2 bath, unfinished bsmt
- Starter home or rental investment
- Deeded 20' Right of Way to Head Lake
- Walking distance to college, ski trails



Brandon Nimigon\*\*\*  
457-2128 x 127

### Monck Lake

- 2.3 acre waterfront building lot
- 490 ft frontage, SW exposure
- Yr round private road



Karen Nimigon\*\*  
457-6505

### Kashagawigamog \$2,450,000

- 3.6 acres, 815ft waterfront, SW exposure
- 4bdrm, 2bath ctg & 1bdrm, 1bath guest ctg
- Sand & rock shoreline, 5 lake chain



Kelly Kay\*  
705-457-8841  
Kirsten Rae\*  
705-854-1454

### North Pigeon Lake \$249,000

- 0.89 acre lot features 150ft of Lake frontage
- 5 minutes to the town of Minden for all amenities



Darlene Reil\*  
447-2055

### Lake Lorraine \$699,000

- 3 bdrm winterized cottage with garage & loft, sandy beach.



Christine Sharp\*  
705-489-9968

### Brand New Build \$599,000

- Walkers Line, Kushog area
- 3 Bed / 2 bath
- Close to Kushog boat launch



Greg Stamp\*  
457-2128 x 128

### Miskwabi Lake \$1,400,000

- 2274sf, 4-bedroom, 2 bath, built 2006
- Open concept, floor-ceiling stone FP
- Sand/rock shoreline, 2 lake chain
- Great privacy & WEST exposure



Melanie Vigrass\*  
286-2138 x 232

### Percy Lake \$1,300,000

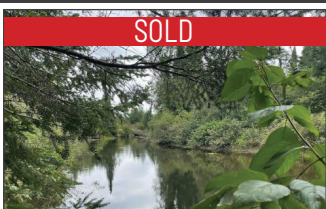
- Well-maintained 4-season cottage
- Open concept, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths
- 100 feet of frontage with southern exp
- Algonquin-style lake perfect for all activities



Lindsay Wilkinson\*  
286-2138 x 223

### Minden Commercial Lot \$229,900

- Excellent location with maximum exposure
- Commercial zoning with many possible uses
- Investment or your own business



Andrea Wilson\*\*  
705-457-6694

### Irondale River

- Terraced 3+ acres, 470 ft waterfront
- Southern exp., canoe/kayak route
- Yr round municipal rd, hydro at lot line



Kirby Keks\*  
705-457-2128  
x138

### Buying or Selling?

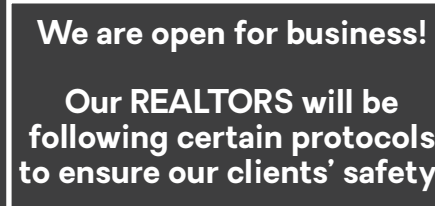
- MOVE to what Moves You!
- CLIENT focused! Results Driven!
- Free Evaluations, Call Me Today!



Jim Allder\*  
705-935-1112

### Minden Home \$689,000

- Custom Built 2 Bedroom Bungalow
- Fully Finished Basement with Walkout.
- Must see!



**We are open for business!**

**Our REALTORS will be following certain protocols to ensure our clients' safety.**

**Contact us to learn more about our updated practices.**

**CENTURY 21**

**Granite Realty Group Inc.**

BROKERAGE

**PROUDLY PART OF THE HALIBURTON  
HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY!**

Haliburton 705-457-2128 | Minden 705-286-2138 | Carnarvon 705-489-9968 | Kennisis/Redstone 705-754-1932